



Damiano Center

serving people in need

ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025



Letter from the Executive Director

This has been a beautiful year. Yes, there have been challenges, heartache, struggles, and loss- but it has also been a year for reconnecting, gathering, working together, and hope. We see both of these daily within the walls of the Damiano Center- often in the stories of the same person- regardless if they are guests, volunteers, or staff. We are all carrying both the heavy and the light at the same time. No one is exempt from this, regardless of socio-economic status, race, age, gender, or ability- we are all experiencing both the heaviness and the light. I truly believe that this shared experience is beautiful.

At the Damiano we provide space for people to gather, to rest, to eat, to clothe themselves, to wash, to grow, to just be. It is basic human dignity that everyone deserves. We are able provide this space and these services because of the generosity of the community- because of you.

And so we are simply taking a moment to share with you all of the beautiful things that have happened in 2021-2022 because of your support. You did this! You provided dignity, honor, respect, and value. You have allowed for people to experience light in the midst of heaviness. To experience hope and joy in the midst of challenges and heartache. You have done this and we can't thank you enough.

For forty years the Damiano has had the opportunity and privilege to serve as an in-between space. In-between spaces are some of the most vibrant spaces. In nature the space between two different ecosystems is the space where the most life and diversity happens. The Damiano is the same. It's a space where community members who don't always have the chance to interact together, get to do so in a safe and beautiful way. They have the opportunity to let down their guard a bit and get to know each other. The Damiano is also a space that the community trusts enough to send finances and material goods, knowing that they will be used responsibly and given to people who need them most. It is a space where guests know that they can get what they need while being respected and honored. This gathering space, this in-between space, is so full vibrancy and life. It is beautiful.

So again, thank you for creating beauty. In the midst of everything else, you have done a beautiful thing by supporting- in a myriad of ways- the beauty that is happening in this vital vibrant space.

Thank you.

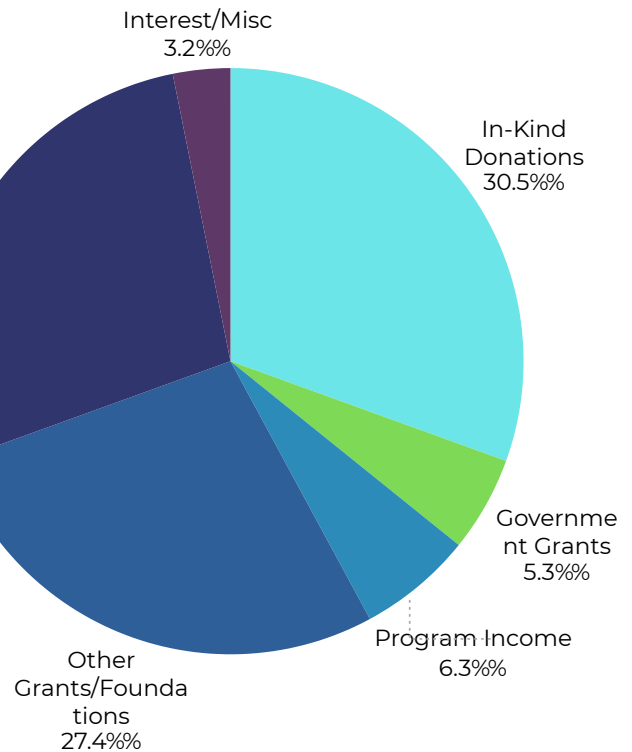
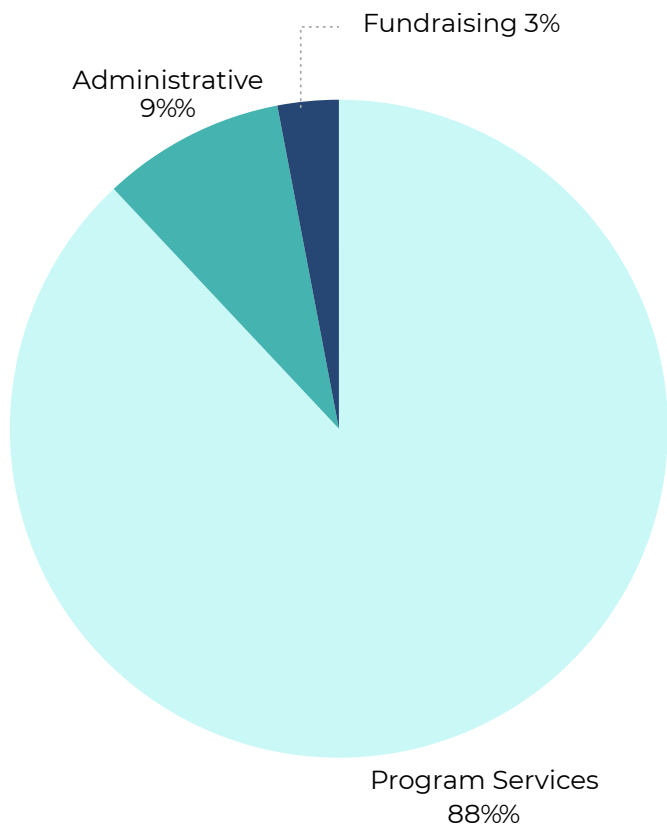
*Seth Currier
Executive Director
Damiano Center*

HOW WE SERVED

- Community Kitchen Meal Total: **76,845**
- Free Store Items Given Away: **231,481**
- Free Store Visits: **23,991**
- Kids' Kitchen Attendees **1005**
- Health Realization Totals: Attendees **776**
- Hygiene Unit Showers: 6 Months **665**
- Community Services: visits: **3,301**
- Clothes That Work: total visits **274**
- Safe Storage: active bins, total participants, including closed bins **673**

Financial Report

Expenses



Revenue

Damiano Staff

Maria A. Alicea
Children's Program Manager

Jazmin Hurd
Kitchen Worker

Kim Prekker
Kids' Kitchen Assistant

Gerald Anderson
Hygiene Unit Custodian

Lisa Forrestal
Administrative Specialist

Bobby Price
Hygiene Unit Custodian

Charles Fields
Weekend Custodian

Rod-dell Jones
Safe Storage Assisstant

Terry Yarbough
Kitchen Worker

Seth Currier
Executive Director

Colleen Martin
Kitchen Worker

David Freeman
Janitor

Tom Casper
Kitchen Assistant

Kevin Oliver
Facilities Manager

Flora Woodfork
Community Kitchen Manager

Eldri Snow
Clothing Coordinator

Christopher Paris
Associate Director

Willie Woodfork
Community Services Coordinator

Board of Directors

Officers

Tiffany Doherty, President
Justice North

Brad Gustason, President-elect
Human Development Center (retired)

Kari Carlson, Secretary
National Bank of Commerce

Cathy VonRueden, Treasurer
UCare (retired)

Jeremy O'Connor, President-elect
Duluth Police Department

Members

Benjamin Clarke
U of M Medical School

Matt Benfield
6th District Public Defenders Office

Dillon Forcier
Edward Jones

Lyndsy Lindquist
U.S. Bank

Sen. Jennifer McEwen
Minnesota State Senate

Sr. Louis Eckes
St. Scholastica Monastery

Alison Paulseth-Bautch
Ascential Wealth Advisors

Susana Pelayo-Woodward
University of Minnesota Duluth

Lawrence J. Trujillo
ThinkBIG Digital Marketing

Christy Urick
Jamar Company

Kayla Witzman
Aspirus St. Luke's